

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hein and Skuk  
Serial No. : 10/784,477  
Filed : February 23, 2004  
For : BAND COATING APPARATUS WITH A VACUUM  
CHAMBER AND A COATING ROLL  
Art Unit : 1763  
Examiner : K. A. Moore

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February 28, 2007

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450  
MS: Patent Application

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to prosecution on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: